# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMUNICATIONS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:51
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2016
Verification of Beneficiaries
Gopal Dr. K.

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether host of services/facilities are available on digital platform including mobile and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to utilise mobile number for verification of beneficiaries for extending benefits under various Government services and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the safeguards taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the present status of the proposal?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 51 FOR 20th JULY, 2016 REGARDING "VERIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES".

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has implemented several schemes/projects to make services/facilities available on digital platform including mobile. Under Digital India programme, "e-Kranti" is being implemented, which envisages making all government services accessible to the common man in his locality, through Common Service Delivery outlets such as Digital Seva Kendras and ensure efficiency, transparency & reliability of such services at affordable costs to realize the basic needs of the common man. With a view to integrate various services, host of services under various Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) covering wide domains including Health, Education, Passport Seva, Trade, Income Tax, Excise & Customs, Corporate Affairs, India Post, e-Police, Land Records, etc. are being implemented under e-Kranti by various Central Ministries/Departments and States/Union Territories governments, undertaking Government Process Reengineering (GPR), work flow automation, introducing latest technologies such as Cloud and mobile platform.

The Government has undertaken several initiatives to introduce new Information Technology products and technologies and to strengthen existing ones in its various e-Governance projects wherever applicable. These include Meghraj- GI (Government of India) Cloud project to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud Computing, Digital Locker for online storage and sharing of Government documents and certificates, e-Sign (e-Signature) for hassle free online electronic signature with Aadhaar authentication, National Geo-Spatial Information System (GIS) for decision support system, National Scholarships Portal for all government scholarships on a single website, e-Hospital to eliminate long queues in the hospital and easy maintenance of health records, MyGov (My Government) portal to enhance digital empowerment and enhance citizens' partnership in the governance eco system, Mobile Seva to provide government services to the people through mobile phones and tablets, Jeevan Pramaan to provide biometric enabled digital services for pensioners, PayGov India and National Services Delivery Gateway for expeditious and cost effective implementation of e-Governance projects, etc.

In addition to this, the Government has notified "Framework for Mobile Governance" to utilize the massive reach of mobile phones and harness the potential of mobile applications (apps) to enable easy and round-the-clock access to public services, especially in the rural areas. The framework aims to create unique infrastructure as well as application development ecosystem for m-Governance in the country.

Further, mobile applications have been used by all the States/Union Territories and various Central Government departments for delivering their services to citizens. Currently, 788 applications are hosted on the Government Mobile Application Store (Appstore) for the following categories of services:

â€¢ Aadhaar
â€¢ Agriculture
â€¢ Electoral
â€¢ Health
â€¢ Indian Post
â€¢ Judiciary

â€¢ Language
â€¢ Education: M-learning
â€¢ Municipal Services
â€¢ Social
â€¢ Transport

(b) to (d) At present, there is no such proposal to utilize the mobile number for verification of beneficiaries for extending benefits under various Government service. However, in order to transfer the cash/benefits directly under various Government schemes, Aadhaar is preferably used as an identifier for authentication & verification of beneficiary and the mobile number is used only for the purpose for dissemination of information to the beneficiary.